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The style of the book is altogether admirable. Probably no such readable college history has ever been written before. In spite of the great size of the work, the pages slip by so easily and pleasantly that one finds a volume read before one realizes it. In literary workmanship, as in research, the history is all that could be desired.

The fourth volume is devoted to the later activities of the University. This is the only volume really open to criticism. Mr. Bruce has included an account of the rise and development of athletics at the university. He has done so with a most obvious ignorance of such matters as baseball and football. The assistance of some one conversant with college sports would have been beneficial, for in the modern college athletics rank ahead of everything else. In fact, the experience and reputation that a student gains as a football player are more important than any mere course of study. Boys recognize this fact, and are blamed for doing so, as if academic theories are more vital than realities. The truth is that a student can capitalize an athletic reputation so as to get a vast start in the race of life. Since athletics are thus in no sense inferior in importance to studies, they are worthy of a more detailed and technical treatment than Mr. Bruce has given them.

But in a work so vast such a deficiency can not be considered a great blemish. The fact remains that Mr. Bruce has written the best college history ever written in this country. Indeed, he has devoted to telling the story of a small college riches of learning and literary skill that would have adorned the relation of the fall of an empire.

One feature that must be emphasized is the excellence of the characterizations. Jefferson and his compeers; Long; Sylvester; Gessner (the Great) Harrison; the absurd Bledsoe; the very singular Schele de Vere; the majestic John B. Minor; Gildersleeve, world figure in scholarship; Noah K. Davis, that mind of Descartes and soul of child; "Daddy" Holmes; illustrious Mallet; Paul B. Barringer, fat scientist loved by so many generations of school-boys for his Lincolnian stories; Alderman, first king; Milton Humphreys, greatest of them all—these figures and many more pass through the delightful pages of Mr. Bruce's charming book. Everybody who ever succeeded in attending the university—if only for a brief season—should read it.

H. J. ECKENRODE.

ABSTRACT OF LOWER NORFOLK COUNTY WILLS. Compiled by Charles F. McIntosh, Norfolk, Va. Published by the Colonial Dames of America in the State of Virginia. A Complete Series of Abstracts of all the Wills of Lower Norfolk and Norfolk Counties, now on Record in the Clerk's Office at Portsmouth, Va., from 1637 to 1710. Lower Norfolk County included the Present Princess Anne and Norfolk Counties. Price \$3.00. For sale by the Bell Book and Stationery Co., Richmond, Va.

As a second volume of Abstracts of Norfolk Wills by Mr. McIntosh is nearly ready for publication we are glad again to call attention to the first one, published a few years ago. It is a book indispensable to all persons interested in the people and families of that section. *The Abstract of Norfolk Wills* is exactly one of those books which soon get out of print and which later bring a price provokingly high to people who need them. Mr. McIntosh and the Virginia Society of Colonial

Dames have done a fine work for history and genealogy in this book and its successor, covering later dates, which is soon to appear.

Among the names mentioned in the first volume are those of Ashall, Ballantine, Batchelor, Boroughs, Boush, Bray, Brooke, Butt, Carraway, Church, Corprew, Chamberlain, Cocke, Culpeper, Dickson, Emperour, Etheridge, Foster, Fentress, Gaskins, Godfrey, Grandy, Grimes, Hall, Hancock, Hatton, Herbert, Hodge, Ivy, Jenkins, Johnson, Keeling, Kemp, Lambert, Langley, Land, Lawson, Lewelling, Mason, Maund, Moseley, Nash, Newton, Old, Pinner, Porter, Porten, Portlock, Powell, Robinson, Sayer, Sibsey, Sidney, Sikes, Spratt, Tanner, Taylor, Thelaball, Thoroughgood, Thruston, Tucker, White, Whitehurst, Williamson, Wiloughby, Wilson, Wishart, Woodhouse, Valentine, Veale, Walke, Webb, Wright, Yeardley, to name only a few.

LIFE AND TIMES OF STEVENS THOMSON MASON, THE BOY GOVERNOR OF MICHIGAN. By Lawton T. Hemans. Lansing, Michigan Historical Commission, 1920, pp. 528, with 82 illustrations.

This book was for years a labor of love on the part of the author. The life of a young Virginian who played a very considerable part in the West is not only of much interest to the people of Michigan, but also to those of Governor Mason's native state. It contains indeed, much matter in regard to the Masons of Virginia, illustrated by a number of interesting portraits.

Mr. Heman's work is marked by most careful research and his book is a valuable addition to American history.

THE GOVERNMENTS OF EUROPE. By Frederic Austin Ogy, Ph. D., Professor of Political Science in the University of Wisconsin. Author of "The Economic Development of Modern Europe," "Social Progress in Contemporary Europe," etc. Revised edition, New York. The Macmillan Company. 1920. pp. 775.

The first edition of this book was published in 1913 and it rapidly made such a place for itself in public estimation, that a new edition is called for. The author says in his preface, "Since 1913 the structure, functions and problems of government have undergone important changes in every European State, in Germany, Russia and the Dual Monarchy Austria-Hungary, reconstruction has sprung from overt revolution. The volume has, accordingly been rewritten throughout."

Our relations with Europe are now so close and involving so much of the gravest importance, that it is needless to waste words on the need and value of such a book as this, done as Professor Ogy has done it.

EARLY TUDOR POETRY, 1485-1547. By John M. Berdan, New York. The Macmillan Company, 1920; pp. 564.

The poets and prose writers of early Tudor England—Hawes, Skelton, John Heywood, Sir Thomas More, Wyatt, Surrey and others—